



Janice K. Brewer
Governor

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Henry R. Darwin
Director

February 1, 2013

RPU:13-155

Mr. Donovan L. Neese
Superintendent
Roosevelt Irrigation District
103 West Baseline Road
Buckeye, Arizona 85326

RE: Conditional Approval of RID's Modified Early Response Action Work Plan
West Van Buren WQARF Registry Site
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Neese:

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Remedial Projects Unit (RPS) has completed its review of the *Modified Early Response Action Work Plan* (Modified ERA Work Plan), *West Van Buren WQARF Registry Site, Phoenix, Arizona*, dated October 2012, and prepared by Synergy Environmental, LLC on behalf of the Roosevelt Irrigation District (RID). The Modified ERA Work Plan serves as a modification to RID's original Early Response Action (ERA) Work Plan dated February 3, 2010. ADEQ has reviewed the Modified ERA Work Plan only as it pertains to the objectives outlined in the Modified ERA Work Plan. Specifically, RID's objective to protect RID's supply of water and addressing current and future risks to public health, welfare, and the environment [Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) R18-16-405(A)].

Based on our analysis of available information, ADEQ conditionally approves, the October 2012 Modified ERA Work Plan. This approval supersedes ADEQ's approval of the previous ERA Work Plan dated February 3, 2010. The conditional approval is contingent upon the following:

1. RID must maintain historical pumping rates to ensure that there are no adverse impacts to groundwater quality and levels within the West Van Buren Area. Water levels must be maintained at or near current levels taking into account natural variations.
2. As stated in the Public Health Exposure Assessment and Mitigation Summary Report, prepared by Synergy Environmental, LLC and dated September 16, 2011, "there is not an imminent (acute) risk to public from the contamination being released from the RID

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water systems." However, long-term effects are uncertain and data also shows that "significant volatilization and transfer of contaminants, from the water into the air, is occurring and is ongoing." Based on these statements, RID intends to implement measures to limit these exposures. ADEQ's conditional approval is contingent on RID's implementation of these measures.

ADEQ analyzed the Modified ERA Work Plan to determine compliance with applicable State statutes and rules. ADEQ has not reviewed whether the Modified ERA Work Plan is consistent with any federal laws or regulations. ADEQ also did not review information contained in the Modified ERA Work Plan not relevant to the stated objectives. This includes, but is not limited to, the ancillary benefits from implementing the RID Modified ERA Work Plan. ADEQ agrees that these can be considered during the West Van Buren WQARF Feasibility Study. ADEQ's conditional approval also does not include an analysis or approval of the transport or final disposition and use of the treated water.

As stated, the Modified ERA Work Plan incorporates all relevant and applicable information from the original ERA Work Plan

I look forward to working with you and other parties as you begin this process. Please contact me at 602-771-4567 or llm@azdeq.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Laura L. Malone, Director
Waste Programs Division
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

cc: Henry Darwin, ADEQ
Tina LePage, ADEQ
Andre' Chiaradia, ADEQ
Kevin Snyder, ADEQ